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Maine Reaches the Century Mark.

Maine was made a State and admitted to the Union 100 years ago next Monday. Up to that time the province was a part of Massachusetts and as such bore an honorable and not inconspicuous part with the thirteen colonies in the French and Indian war and afterward in the Revolution. Maine troops fought at the siege of Louisbourg and at Bunker Hill, went through privations with Washington at Valley Forge and aided in overwhelming Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. On each succeeding occasion when an embattled nation has called its sons to arms soldiers from the Pine Tree State have valiantly upheld the traditions of their forebears.

Although the first permanent colonists in what is now Maine were English, CHAMPLAIN skirted much of its rocky coast in 1604, ascending the Penobscot River as far as the present site of Bangor, where he found an Indian village. Nine years later the Jesuits under Father BAIN and Father DE THER established the colony of St. Sauveur at the entrance of Somes Sound, on Mount Desert Island. Predatory English fishermen from the south attacked them and St. Sauveur was blotted from the map.

Gradually little settlements of English sprang up along the coast line in the south. Sometimes their inhabitants were massacred by Indians, as was the case at Falmouth, now the city of Portland. But the stock was hardy and more settlers drifted in from Massachusetts, working their way along the coast to the eastward and up the fertile river valleys. They made a precarious livelihood through fishing, hunting and tilling the land they cleared of the forests of pine and spruce.

As early as 1652 the inhabitants of Maine deeded the claim to their territory then first formally asserted by Massachusetts. The British Crown named a royal commission to investigate and in June, 1665, a report was made sustaining the contention of the Bay State. In 1676 the British Parliament annulled the pretensions of Massachusetts to both Maine and New Hampshire and restored the provinces to the heirs of FREDERICK GONZA, the original patentee. There were politicians in Massachusetts, even in those days, and the General Court a couple of years later bought the Gorges patent from the heirs for \$12,500.

The matter was a constant source of trouble, and agitation for separation continued intermittently all through the days of the Revolution and up to 1785, when the first move to establish Maine as an independent State was made.

The eventual admission of Maine as a State in the Union in 1820 was interwoven with the fight which followed the Louisiana Purchase over the granting of Statehood to Missouri. The South was determined that Missouri, where slaves were owned in great numbers, should come in as a slave State. The North was as thoroughly determined that it should not. Finally the Missouri Compromise was effected and the two States, counterbalancing one another as to slavery, were accepted.

Perhaps the hardy vigor which characterizes the people of Maine to the present day is due chiefly to the conditions against which the early settlers were obliged to contend. They wrested a hard living from rocky farms, from stormy, wintry seas and from the forest primeval. As a result men and women were bred who were vigorous and self-reliant in a distinctly American way—powerful moulders of the growing Republic in the days when thousands of them emigrated to the West and helped conquer a new and vast empire for the nation.

There are few States where the original stock shows as little admixture of other races. The wave of Irish immigration which followed the great famine brought thousands of Irishmen to Maine, but they were readily assimilated. Along the northern and western border and in the manufacturing towns in the southern

counties there are many French Canadians to-day, but they form an inconsiderable portion of the population. It is still Yankee in the main. The unimpaired Americanism of the people was shown by the unanimous popular sentiment which rejected with scorn the Canadian proposal to annex the northern counties to the Dominion under the League of Nations.

Although great quantities of timber have been cut in Maine the State is still possessed of enormous wealth in lumber. Its agricultural development has not yet reached the maximum. Its water power is virtually untapped. There is more undeveloped water power to-day in northern Maine than in any other section of the eastern seaboard of the United States, and with the growth of population it is only a question of time when it will be harnessed and utilized for productive industry upon a vast scale.

Increased prosperity is certain with the passing of the years. The vitality which has brought Maine happily through her first century of Statehood is as strong as ever.

It Was Wrong to Say That the Mayor Looks Like a Gargoyle.

"You look like a gargoyle. You are always looking down and making faces at people."

Such words, if uttered a century ago, would have meant pistols and a journey at dawn to the Elysian Fields of Hoboken. Uttered to-day in Congress or any other dignified legislative body they would mean a call for an apology and a striking from the record. But in the Board of Estimate, it seems, speech is neither confined nor reined.

It is proper to say, however, that Borough President CURRAN, who made the terrible accusation against Mayor HYLAN, was wrong. His Honor does not look like any gargoyle we have ever seen on a roof or in a book. When he is on the sands of Florida, watching the conflict of sand and jellyfish, he resembles XEROPHON or HEMORRHOIDS. When he speaks to a meeting of tenants he is DEMOSTHENES. When he defies the vested interests he is AJAX. But he is never a gargoyle.

The charitable view to take of President CURRAN's error is that he meant that the Mayor occasionally acts like a gargoyle, the business of which is spouting.

Final Touches in the Education of Europe.

The President's letter to his unhappy friend Senator HITCHCOCK has already produced two results worth noting. By his insulting characterization of the mild reservationist Senators as "unlifiers" of his personal decrees he has alienated several more treaty makers whose voices and votes might have been useful to him. By his equally insulting characterization of the motives of the Governments with which he came recently in communication at Paris and elsewhere he has dispelled abroad the last illusion respecting himself and his purposes and his right to speak for the American people.

It does not surprise us, therefore, to find such an intelligent friend of America as STEPHANE LAZANNE and such an earnest co-worker with President WILSON for the establishment of the League of Nations as ANDRE TARDIEU turning upon him almost mercilessly now with accusations of injustice and megalomania. "He has been unjust to France," says TARDIEU. "It is the same university professor," writes the editor of the *Matin*, "meddlesome, ignorant, turning out phrases pretty in words but bad in meaning. It is the same pedagogue who, mixing into the greatest drama in history, understood nothing of it and has learned nothing of it."

The protests of the other organs of French opinion vary in tone from grief to indignation. The *Temps*, most moderate of newspapers, draws a cutting contrast between Mr. Wilson's farewell message to the French people last year and his present observations to Mr. HITCHCOCK on France's militarism and imperialistic designs. The *Journal des Debats* says of the President: "In his eyes the word 'Wilsonian' suffices for all. That is his fundamental error." The *Matin*, in assuring the American people of the continued affection and gratitude of France, remarks of us: "It is not their fault if for a few months more they have at their head a false theorist and a faulty idealist." "The American nation," says the *Paris-Midi* with savage bluntness, "is led by a lunatic." The *Presse* remembers that France accepted the Versailles treaty because Wilson presented it as the wish of the American people. "Now America disavows the treaty," the *Presse* continues, "and it is against us that Wilson pours forth his wrath." "One should not be deceived," says the *Liberte*, "into thinking that President Wilson's voice is the voice of America. The President has even lost all his prestige with his own party."

These and a hundred similar comments in the newspapers of France, of England and of Italy mark the wide distance between the Wilson of then and the Wilson of now in the view of European opinion. Such remarks as we have quoted form, perhaps, the most terrible indictment for insincerity, the most direct accusation of unfounded pretence in obtaining political results, which could ever be brought against a President of the United States by the press of a friendly nation.

Europe has now learned what the great body of Americans has known all along, namely, that President WILSON represented only himself at Paris, and there negotiated, bargained

and promised without warrant from our Government or our people. In Europe they do not yet clearly understand why this should have been so, but they know now that it was so, and to that extent their education has progressed.

We ourselves have also something to learn. What is the alchemy of this strange transmutation? What is the secret of the remarkable talent that so steadily and progressively transforms confidence into distrust, cooperation into resistance, personal loyalty into active or passive enmity, admiration into indifference or resentment, glorious opportunity into dismal failure?

Stock Dividends Sold for Cash.

Either Internal Revenue Commissioner RORER has expressed himself kindly or he does not yet comprehend the fundamental principle embraced in and the fundamental fact resulting from the Supreme Court's decision against taxing stock dividends as income. Like some loose thinkers and talkers among the newspapers he seems to imagine that if a man receives a stock dividend and sells it the cash proceeds then become taxable as income. But by the very nature of the Supreme Court decision they certainly do not. The stock itself representing merely a part of the already possessed capital cannot be taxed as income, and therefore that possessed capital merely converted into cash cannot be taxed as income. What could be taxed and will be taxed as income are the cash dividends paid on that stock after it is issued; and nothing else.

Nor does it follow, as so many persons mistakenly declare, that if the stock dividend is sold for cash by the man who receives it he can be taxed on the proceeds under the revenue law provisions applying to profits. It all depends. Profits made on the sale of a stock dividend would be taxable, of course, like profits made on the sale of a house or a farm or a cow. But they would have to be profits based on the very principles laid down by the Supreme Court. The mere sale for cash of a stock dividend itself would not necessarily indicate a profit.

Suppose a man paid \$200 a share for ten shares of stock whose par value was only \$100 a share. Presumably the stock commanded a market price of twice its par value because in the property itself back of the stock there was twice the value represented by the stock capitalization. Now, suppose all the shareholders, to make their stock capitalization exactly equal the value of the property, declared a stock dividend of 100 per cent. Then that particular shareholder who had paid \$2,000 for his ten shares of stock in the company would have twenty shares, just as every other shareholder would have twice the number of shares he had before. But the value of the property would be exactly what it was before. Wherefore the value of every outstanding share after the stock dividend would be only half the value of every outstanding share before the stock dividend.

The particular individual to whom we have referred had, before the stock dividend, ten shares bought at \$200 each and worth \$2,000 in all. He had, after the stock dividend, twenty shares, but worth only \$1,000 each, or exactly the same \$2,000. This is the very essence of the Supreme Court decision. So, then, if he sold the ten shares of his stock dividend at \$100 each, the new market value, he would still possess the old ten shares worth only \$1,000 each, or \$1,000, along with \$1,000 in cash, or both put together, exactly the same \$2,000. And the cash proceeds wouldn't be taxable one penny as profits any more than they would be taxable one penny as income. Whether one share or all the shares, new or old, were sold for cash at the price of \$100 a share would make no difference. Nothing would be taxable, either as income or as profits.

As They Know Us in Caucasus.

The American Vice-Consul at Tiflis, Caucasus, says in the *Commerce Reports* that the people of the region which embraces the new Caucasian republics prefer American films of a certain type to all other foreign films. He adds that the people "have become enthusiastic patrons of the drama as portrayed upon the screen," and that in Tiflis the daily attendance at the motion picture houses is 20,000, and in the entire region it is estimated at about 500,000. The motion picture is to these people the great means of entertainment and instruction and the principal source of enlightenment concerning distant lands.

The United States may congratulate itself upon standing well with these new-born republics. The American Red Cross has received all possible courtesies in its missions in this region, and the few American doughs who have been there have been treated, according to one of their number, "the best ever." One of the little republics adopted as its own our Declaration of Independence and Constitution, slightly modified to suit local conditions. An American officer, Colonel JAMES C. RIEKE, was largely instrumental in the establishment of the republics of the disturbed Karabagh district by settling a feud twenty centuries old between the Tartars and the Armenians.

How much the American films have had to do in forming the Caucasian opinion of this country remains merely a matter of conjecture. But they must have had at least some influence. We are informed that in parts of China the people believe us very religious because the pictures that left

the greatest impression with them were those upon religious subjects; in Bosnia they think us a nation of big business because most of the American scenes shown were views of New York streets, and in some South American States they consider us a remarkably extravagant and well-dressed set because most of the American screen pictures were either melodramas or society plays.

Our Vice-Consul declares that the Caucasians do not want our society dramas, because they cannot comprehend them, and that, "being a highly excitable and rather primitive people, educational and scenic pictures fall as a rule to create any interest." The American films most desired and preferred above all others are pictures of cowboys or Western life and detective stories, "with plenty of shooting," for he says "These are considered as typically American."

To the Caucasians Uncle Sam thus appears to be a fellow well armed and quick on the trigger. And is it for that reason our little Asiatic sister republics love us?

Some Facts About the Origin of Poison Gas Used in War.

This newspaper has recently received a number of inquiries concerning the origin of the various gases used in the war. Apparently the subject is of interest in various parts of the country. In order that the curiosity with regard to a weapon of which the world is likely to hear more rather than less may be satisfied we appealed to the Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army, for such information as to the inventors of the various gases as might properly be made public, and Lieutenant-Colonel AMOS A. FAIRBANKS, chief of that important service, has written to us a letter so comprehensive and interesting we reproduce it herewith:

"Replying to your request for information as to who invented the gases used in the world war I would state that this is an extremely difficult question to answer exactly. "For instance, mustard gas was discovered by a German, VICTOR MAYER, in 1858.

"Phosgene, one of the most important gases, was known and used in a small way for industrial purposes prior to the war. "Bromobenzylcyanide, a powerful tear gas, was invented by the French, but not actually put into use on a large scale.

"Vincentine, whose main base is hydrocyanic acid gas, was invented by the French. "There are many gases, as for instance what is known as di-phosgene of the Germans, that we are not quite sure who invented.

"As a matter of fact, some of them were probably invented in two or more countries, though after the gas was once used on the field of battle by one side the other knew within twenty-four to forty-eight hours what the gas was, because, as far as I am aware, without exception at least one unexploded shell was found after each large bombardment with a new gas.

"Such shells were opened and their contents analyzed within twenty-four to forty-eight hours. "It is not believed that your question can be answered much more fully at the present time."

We know that Lieutenant-Colonel FAIRBANKS's interesting statement of fact will be valued by many of our readers, and in their behalf as well as for ourselves we thank him for his assistance in this matter.

Friend wife of a civil service employee of the Federal Government had better look out or her husband's boss will catch her and punish her for co-lusive political activities. Here is a copy of an official statement issued by the United States Civil Service Commission:

"Prohibited political activity by an employee does not consist exclusively in active, actual, personal participation in political affairs. The commission is of opinion, therefore, that evasion of the rule by an employee through the activities of wife or husband will be found the easiest of all forms of collusion to discover, establish and punish."

Without pausing for the suggestion that an order so brutally, arrogantly dictatorial issued by a private employer would call forth a nationwide protest, it may be pointed out that voting at a political election is a "personal participation" in political affairs. Therefore a civil service employee's wife in this State may vote only at the risk of discovery and punishment. If the amazing "statement" does not mean that, it will be of value to learn from the master of English who composed the "statement" for the Civil Service Commission just what it does mean.

Positive Facts.

Forty million toilet pins are produced by America every year.

The yearly American crop of metal hairpins is a billion and a quarter.

Needles of all kinds numbering 225,000,000 are produced every twelve months in this country.

White rabbit skins rose from 5 cents to 10 cents in the St. Louis fur market.

Native of the Federated Malay States are now forced to grow certain foodstuffs, including rubber, to replace rice, of which there exists a serious shortage.

Peru has been independent for 100 years and will celebrate the centennial in 1921.

The United States has in Canada a formidable rival in the race for the world's record as the champion sugar consumer. Canada having consumed in 1919 an amount equal to 95.55 pounds a head.

The Lucky Rich. From the Detroit Free Press. He said that he was that he was feeling ill. So he goes south. To wait the pill.

SIXTY YEARS AGO.

The Crystal Palace Fire and the Draft Riots Recalled. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: In 1867 I turned out with a target company called the Livingston Guards. We started from Tenth avenue between Forty-third and Forty-fourth streets and shot and had refreshments at what was called at that time Low's Woods. It was up around Sixty-seventh street west of the old Bloomingdale road. Fernando Wood, Mayor of New York, had a fine country place in that neighborhood. Central Park at that time was a wilderness.

There was a bad panic in that year. I remember men and women with their hands waiting in line to get soup at the soup house in Ninth avenue between Forty-first and Forty-second streets. Where Bryant Square is there was a building called the Crystal Palace, where there had been a world's fair. I was playing at Forty-second street and Tenth avenue one afternoon in the fall of 1865 when we saw a big cloud of black smoke up Forty-second street. We ran down to Forty-third street and Eleventh avenue to McCabe's liquor store and told two members of Hose Cart 62, Minute Hose. Soon we were all boys on the rope, pulling the hose east. When we got to the fire it was a mass of flames from Fortieth to Forty-second street. The Crystal Palace could not be saved. On the uptown side of Forty-second street there were higher wooden tenements and they turned the water on them.

I saw a great deal of the draft riots in 1863. A lot of thieves and the scum of New York took advantage of the disorder to burn and rob, as our militia regiments had been called to Pennsylvania to stop the rebel invasion. On the first day they burned the Colored Orphan Asylum up in Fifth avenue, and I saw some women that lived opposite to where I lived carry off feather ticks. After the riot I saw the police come and take the mattresses out of their houses.

The second day of the riot a mob led by an old coal heaver named Burke, who was on a white horse, broke in the doors of Bob Campbell's liquor store and they rolled out the barrels of liquor and it was running in the gutter. Of course the mob drank enough. That store was on the southeast corner of Tenth avenue and Forty-third street.

A company of green troops who had never had any training came down Tenth avenue and the mob all scattered, but in a short time they rallied with showers of cobblestones, with which the streets were paved then. When the soldiers got to Forty-first street they halted and all fired together. The mob saw that the soldiers ran, and I think there were very few ever reached the arsenal at Thirty-fifth street and Seventh avenue.

Burke and his gang then went to Forty-first street and Eleventh avenue and gutted Allerton's Hotel and set fire to it. I was sixteen at that time and a runner of Washington How 12. When the house was laid the mob would not let the firemen put any water on the hotel. They let them play on the gas tanks on the opposite side of the street.

Then the mob went down to Bill O'Brien's next to the ferry house, and gutted and fired that. The firemen could not put any water on it, only on the gas house.

On the third day there was a company of Regulars stationed near the cannon on Forty-second street and Tenth avenue, and there was martial law. Every one was ordered off the streets and to keep windows closed. Opposite where I lived was an old citizen up at the third story window. The soldiers told him to close it. He would not do it. The officer told one of his men to fire and the soldier shot him and killed him. His name was Greenway; he had a son in the army who got shot for being a deserter.

For 25 years I got up aboard of the Great Eastern when she lay at the foot of Hammond street in 1860. I saw the body of Abraham Lincoln when it lay in the City Hall. W. GARDNER.

New York, March 11.

OPINIONS OF A PATROLMAN.

He Thinks the Police Department's Best Men Are Discouraged. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: May I ask you to print the substance of an honest policeman's reflections on the Canton case?

The pay of a patrolman is \$1,000 a year, actual value \$550. Is the city loyal to its policemen? Can it expect loyalty in return? Men are resigning in increased numbers; few men of required police physique and intelligence will apply for the job to-day. It follows that the city has a higher class police force than it pays for, which in turn means that it is better to-day than it will be in the future at present rate of wages.

What will be the result of an investigation? Several more rules of "Don'ts" added to the 700 already in force. Added power for a vicious and dishonest superior to inflict annoyance and petty personal persecution on the honest men of the force.

The favored detail men of an inspector's office are seldom subject in practice to rules and regulations, being the inspector's choice. They usually respect the authority of the head of the office.

What are you people of the city of New York going to do about it? The best, most intelligent men are leaving the department; those who remain are discouraged and without hope or have resented a state where they do not care.

New York, March 11.

This Year's Pennant.

Now let Ransom resume sway. To The Question of the Day:

We, the champs, says Pat Moran, Have the bunting in the can.

Watch the Giants, says McGraw: It is theirs by natural law.

Clear the walk, you other clods, Mitchell cries: "His ours—the Cubes!"

Nothing to it but three cheers, Drayton laughs—the Buccaneers.

Charley Ebbets swears the Dodgers Surely are the coming clods.

But Gravatth avers the Phillies Will give all the others willies.

Rickey smiles and says the Cards Will surprise their cocky pards.

Stallings sighs, none but the Braves Have a chance—maybe way, ye slaves!

In the Southern-trailing camps All the clubs are always champs.

Experts each, complacent quite—Well, at least one of them's right.

PLANK E. HARR.

THE CAT ON TRIAL.

Automobiles Also Accused of Causing a Decrease in Bird Life. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The decrease in the number of small birds in recent years has been attributed mainly to the depredations of cats and undoubtedly cats do destroy many birds. There is, however, another important factor in causing the decrease in bird life. I refer to the extensive use of gasoline motor vehicles.

It is a well known fact that automobile exhaust gases contain a dangerous poison, carbon monoxide. It so happens that birds are peculiarly susceptible to this poison; in fact, for years birds have been used to detect the first traces of carbon monoxide in the air of mines, for a small bird will exhibit symptoms of distress in an atmosphere containing so little carbon monoxide as to be totally inappreciable to man.

The lessening number of sparrows in our cities is an evidence of the effect of this gas poison upon bird life. Up to ten or fifteen years ago sparrows were so numerous in New York city as to be considered a pest and many appeals were made to public authorities to use some means to exterminate these birds. In recent years sparrows have become relatively scarce in New York. This is not due to lack of food, for at present there are about 75,000 horses in the city and much grain is spilled in the streets.

Apparently the only adequate cause for the disappearance of the sparrow is that the air of the city always contains very large amounts of automobile exhaust gases. New York city consumes on an average about 600,000 gallons of gasoline a day. The carbon monoxide content in automobile exhaust gases varies considerably, but a fair average is about sixty cubic feet to the gallon of gasoline consumed. The carbon monoxide content of the air of New York city is therefore about 100 parts of carbon monoxide to 5,000 parts of air. A little figuring will show that the atmosphere of New York city must be offensive to small bird life, and naturally enough the sparrows have left.

Twenty-five years ago one of the pleasures of a drive in the country was in observing the great numbers and variety of birds. In recent years a summer day drive along a frequented highway will find few birds, although many may still be found along unfrequented roads.

The reason for this is plain enough. Every automobile in travelling along carries with it a wave of exhaust gases, and these gases, spreading out from the road and becoming diffused in the immediate atmosphere, create a condition under which birds will not thrive, and where their environment is more favorable to their existence. R. E. YOUNG.

WHITE PLAINS, March 11.

Birds Injure a Long Island Garden.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: I am nearly 56 years old, have followed the bird dog sixty years and know of what I speak. I would not give one of my cats for all the birds that have ever lighted on my place.

I try to have all kinds of fruit and other garden truck. Here is what the birds do for me:

The beautiful robins destroy my cherries, strawberries, currants and raspberries and mulberries. The catbirds take the grapes; the blackbirds and starlings eat the peas and fruit buds in winter. They are here in countless numbers and they peck and destroy the peaches and apples. I have never seen a robin get any bugs or worms but angeworms, and they are a great benefit to the gardener.

Now here is the other side of the coin. First as to my cats. I have four. I have never seen one of them have a bird, although they nest all round the house. But they keep the place clear of rats, mice, moles and ground mice. J. S. LUBS says nothing about foxes that hunt day and night. They have cleaned up the quails and woodcock. I hardly ever hear a whippoorwill, meadow lark, brown thrasher or wood robin of the ground. There are four hunting clubs that breed and feed and raise foxes, which prey on all birds.

JOHN J. HICKS.

JERICHO, March 11.

ANOTHER HERO CHAPLAIN.

Father Duffy's Honors Recall Father Corby at Gettysburg. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The gallant Father Duffy of the 165th Regiment—the old Sixty-ninth—just decorated with the Legion of Honor to supplement the other well merited honors, succeeded another good Irishman as a fighting chaplain.

The Gettysburg is the status of Father Corby, the Eighty-eighth New York—Meagher's Irish Brigade—on the rock where he gave absolution to the brigade and incidentally to Generals Hancock and Caldwell and the First Division of the Second Corps. At the University of the Sacred Heart of Notre Dame, Indiana, is a grand picture of the scene.

At Auburn in the gray morning of 1863 the first gun from J. E. B. Stuart, who had been at night sandwiched up between two of our corps, planted a shell on Father Corby's hospitable coffee pot. The men lost their breakfast. There was busy work for all hands.

Why Father Corby never got the Congressional Medal of Honor puzzled all who knew him. His rose to be provincial and then general of the Order of the Sacred Heart.

W. L. D. O'GRADY.

Captain, Eighty-eighth New York.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., March 11.

ALLEN AND COOLIDGE.

Ticket Named With a Platform Asserting the Right to Work. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Out of the barrage of Presidential possibilities two figures of heroic potentiality are emerging, and I suggest the nomination for President and Vice-President respectively of Governors Allen of Kansas and Coolidge of Massachusetts.

I also suggest for the principal plank in their platform "The right to labor is more sacred than the right to strike."

PLANK E. HARR.

New York, March 11.

An Arkansas Musical Evening.

Most Holly correspondence Union County Tribune.

Miss Hazel Self, Dr. Self, Curtis Crumpler and others discovered that there was no need to have Walter Damrosch swing down this way from his New York.

On the night of the second they mesmerized a small company of insouciant wights with the most diabolic witchery that violin, guitar, piano and mandolin could sympathize.

MAURICE MORRIS.

SAYS NAVAL DELAY HAS BEEN NEARLY FATAL.

Rear Admiral Sims Declares Allies Barely Escaped Peace Without Victory. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: "The delay in the delivery of the Navy Department to respond to repeated requests for battleships, destroyers, submarine chasers, tugs and other fighting craft in the summer and autumn of 1917, long after America entered the war, Rear Admiral Sims testified to-day before the sub-committee of the Senate Naval Affairs Committee. Acting on the suggestion of Rear Admiral Sims, the committee is to hear Herbert Hoover Saturday when it is said by Rear Admiral Sims he will substantiate the charges made to-day.

"Mr. Hoover has advised me that he will be in Washington at that time," said Rear Admiral Sims, "and will be glad to testify. Of the many men who could speak with intimate knowledge of the situation in Europe in 1917, Mr. Hoover is in a position to know. He pointed out to me when I arrived in London, my first realization of the possible danger of the Allies, in a short time; that the shipping situation was such that it would soon be impossible for the Allies to obtain the necessary supplies and food until American effort should become effective."

Request Made in July.

On July 19, 1917, Sims showed by the record he made his first request by cable for a division of four battleships. His recommendations were based on consultation with the British Admiralty who were about to withdraw 600 of their capital ships and wanted American vessels to take their place. Receiving no reply for four weeks, Sims repeated his request. August 20 Rear Admiral Sims, chief of naval operations, answered by cable that "the strategic situation necessitated keeping the battleship force concentrated" and he would not consider sending part of the battleships across.

In a letter of September 1 Sims, disapproving of the refusal, said: "I cannot accept the sending of this division of ships as a disintegration of our fleet, but merely an advance force between us and the enemy fleet. No man can tell what the outcome of this war will be, but what we must do is to end the war as soon as possible. We must end ourselves in a position which military principles. Can we afford to have reinforcements and that we declined to send them. The reply to this came on November 13 as follows:

"After the consultation with Admiral Mayo the following cable burning dispatch was sent: 'The sending of this division to be dispatched to England; U. S. S. New York, U. S. S. Florida, U. S. S. Delaware and U. S. S. Wyoming. These ships, after docking, should be ready to sail about November 25. Rear Admiral Rodman will command the division.'"

Sims emphasized that these ships were not in fighting condition at the time they were urgently needed, and that when they were sent they were not in uniformity as they should have been, one vessel having 14 inch guns and the other 12 inch guns."